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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 622, 758

Open for discussion on that motion. Senator Janssen, followed by Senators Landis, Hartnett, and Mines. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Landis, did I hear you right? Did you say that that would only be to cities...incorporated cities, villages that don't have a sales tax? If they have a sales tax, no luck.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: They're not going to be sharing in this pot of \$300,000. My expectation is that they'll have an expanded sales tax base in LB 758. But these are towns that don't have that, and the pot is distributed only to them. Fremont, SOL; Lincoln, nothing for us. A hundred and thirty cities get nothing out of this 300,000 bucks. It's because these are the 400 towns that if you blink you miss them.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Landis. And this has been my argument all along. And because of...I've stated this on General File, that they are communities that don't have a sales tax, and can't get one, or haven't tried. They will continue to get a portion of these dollars. And I guess I would have liked to have seen the first class cities, metropolitan cities share in this, as they have in the past. But I guess a piece of pie is better than the whole pie. And, Senator Landis, I haven't heard that, you know, being SOL, for quite some time, so. And I understand where you're coming from. But there are some of the smaller communities that haven't been able to get a sales tax; have tried, and the people have turned them down. So I reluctantly will support Senator Landis' amendment. Like I say, I would have certainly seen us keep those MRF (sic) funds going to where...in the area that they had been. But I guess the will of the body...we were just a few votes short there. So I guess a piece of the pie is better than nothing. With that, thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Landis. Waives the opportunity. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I didn't